

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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ECOWAS Peace Summit on Liberia Opens in Abuja

AB1705142095 Paris AFP in English 1352 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Abuja, 17 May (AFP) — West African leaders met here Wednesday [17 May] in a new bid to end Liberia's anarchic civil war amid warnings that they cannot afford to go on funding a peacekeeping operation after almost five years of stalemate.

The one-day summit of leaders in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) opened in the Nigerian capital Abuja more than two hours after the scheduled starting time of 10:00 A.M. (0900 GMT).

A dozen attempts have been made to end the conflict, which has claimed an estimated 150,000 lives since it began with an insurrection by Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) in December 1989.

A latest bid by the current ECOWAS chairman, Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings, led to a peace accord last December, but implementation of it has stalled on the failure of rival factions to agree on power-sharing.

The leaders at the summit, where the Liberian armed movements and politicians are also represented, were also expected to discuss the future of a the Nigerian-led multinational peacekeeping force sent to the capital Monrovia in August 1990.

Rawlings: War Costly for West Africa

AB1705153895 Paris AFP in English 0901 GMT 17 May 95

[By Ade Obisesan]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Abuja, 17 May (AFP) — Ghana's President Jerry Rawlings has warned that West African countries cannot afford to go on paying for peacekeeping in war-torn Liberia and said the rival factions there must rapidly end the conflict. Rawlings was speaking ahead of a summit opening here Wednesday [17 May] of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), which he currently chairs, in yet another bid to bring a political solution to the five-year war.

"We have enough problems in our countries," Rawlings told a state banquet hosted late Tuesday by Nigerian junta leader General Sani Abacha with guests from 10 countries, including six with troops in Liberia. "The sacrifice, financial and human, being made by these countries cannot be stretched for too long. Let us not miss this opportunity", said Rawlings, who last December mediated a Liberian peace accord which has remained a dead letter because of disagreement

over power-sharing. "The world has virtually washed its hands of us. Let us demonstrate that through logic, through reason, we will find a way", Rawlings said in an emotional speech for which he got a loud ovation in the banquet hall.

He urged the rival factions in Liberia to assist ECOWAS in finding a solution to the crisis. "The problem in Liberia is not alien to us, therefore finding a solution should then not be elusive." he added.

Heads of states present at the banquet included Rawlings, Abacha, Captain Yaya Jammeh from Gambia, Konan Bedie from Ivory Coast, David Kpomakpor from Liberia, Alpha Oumar Konare from Mali, Captain Valentine Strasser from Sierra Leone and Gnassingbe Eyadema from Togo.

Guinea and Senegal, which are members of the ninenation ¹...OWAS special committee on Liberia, were represented at the banquet by ministers. Liberia is not a member of the committee.

Rawlings, whose country has hosted three meetings on the Liberian crisis between last September and January, said none of the ECOWAS nations which sent troops to form part of the Nigerian-led ECOMOG force had "any ulterior motive when we entered Liberia", in August 1990, eight months after the war began. He said that despite all the efforts made by his predecessors at the head of the ECOWAS grouping, "the restoration of peace in that country seems to be eluding us."

Ghana, which is home to thousands of Liberian refugees, could not host the present summit, scheduled to open at ECOWAS headquarters here at 10:00 a.m. (0900) GMT) Wednesday, because of its "limited resources", Rawlings stated.

Speaking before him, Abacha said that the impact of the crisis "goes beyond Liberia" as it threatens security in neighbouring countries and the West African region. He expressed the hope that the summit would lead to a durable peace in Liberia and appealed to all parties involved to cooperate with the special committee. Heads and delegates of the rival factions and Liberian politicians and civilian representatives will attend the summit. [passage omitted]

Abacha, Rawlings Address Delegates

AB1805094995 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The head of state, General Sani Abacha, has again called on all parties to the Liberian conflict to join hands to ensure peace. Gen. Abacha, who was speaking in Abuja at the opening of the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] summit meeting on Liberia, also appealed to faction leaders to allow the spirit of patriotism to prevail over their personal quests for power. State House correspondent Haruna Idriss reports that seven heads of state, including the Liberian warring factions, were represented at the meeting.

[Begin recording] [Idriss] The head of state said the search for peace in Liberia started [words indistinct] Bamako, Lome, Yamoussoukro, Cotonou, Accra, and Geneva [words indistinct]. Gen. Abacha stated that the [words indistinct] underlines their determination to ensure peace in Liberia. (?He pleaded) with the warring factions in the crisis to eschew selfish interests and personal ambitions in the overall interest of the nation.

[Abacha] Liberia [words indistinct] crisis, long after they are gone, Liberia will always remain. No one should, therefore, [words indistinct] the fate of Liberia and their destiny. [applause] By the same token, peace in Liberia can only be negotiated through dialogue [words indistinct] on the people. I wish to also renew this plea because the conflict in Liberia represents human tragedy, which is unacceptable to all men of conscience.

[Idriss] The need to end the crisis, Gen. Abacha said, [words indistinct] the security of Liberia's neighbors [words indistinct] increasingly impaired and that of the entire community. [Words indistinct] the contributions of the United Nations to end the crisis but called for the heads of state's commitments, especially in the provision of force for the disarmament program in Liberia. He stressed the need for collective action to continue to guide their commitment to the Liberian issue, and pledged Nigeria's support.

In his remarks, the ECOWAS chairman, President Jerry Rawlings of Ghana, traced the steps so far taken to ensure peace in Liberia, especially during the Akosombo Accord in January, which he said showed [words indistinct] of the faction leaders. President Rawlings [words indistinct] by the inconsistencies of some member countries, and identified problems hampering the peace process.

[Rawlings] [passage indistinct] We sometimes pursue other agendas [words indistinct] the financial constraints of our community, and the failure of the developed world to come to the aid of ECOMOG [ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] by way of providing financial, logistical support [words indistinct].

[Idriss] In a goodwill message, the UN secretary general, Dr. Butrus Butrus-Ghali, said the crisis has inflicted some (?untold) hardship resulting in the death of over 160,000 people, and the displacement of about (?1.5)

million Liberians. He stated that the international community looked forward to the outcome of the meeting that will facilitate the implementation of recommendations.

The Liberian factions at the meeting include ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia], represented by Alhaji Koromah; the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] of Charles Taylor, represented by Mr. Enoch Dogolea; and the AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia], represented by General Hezekiah Bowen. Others include Mr. Thomas Woewiyu, leading a faction of the NPFL [words indistinct], and the Liberian Peace Council, represented by Professor George Boley. The meeting of the committee is expected to look into the Akosombo Accord and come up with new resolutions to push forward the peace process in Liberia. [end recording]

Leaders Urge Peace, World Support

AB1805092695 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nigeria has solicited the support of the [words indistinct] and the international community in the conclusion of the Liberian peace process. The head of state, General Sani Abacha made the request (?yesterday in Abuja) at a dinner in honor of visiting heads of state of the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] Committee of Nine on Liberia. Gen. Abacha also called on African countries to (?exhibit) a united front, and a concerted approach to meet the challenges confronting the continent.

He said it was gratifying that ECOWAS was providing an avenue for cooperation to promote social, political, and economic cohesion of the subregion. The head of state also said that the effects of the crisis in Liberia have gone beyond its borders to neighboring countries and the entire region. He further appealed to the parties involved in the crisis to cooperate with the committee in resolving the matter.

In his address, the ECOWAS chairman, President Jerry Rawlings of Ghana, stressed the need for the warring factions to cooperate with the committee in ending the crisis.

The Sierra Leonean Government has called for the intervention of ECOWAS in the civil war going on in that country. The country's head of state, Captain Valentine Strasser, made the appeal in Abuja while speaking at the meeting of the ECOWAS Committee on Liberia. He appealed to the ECOWAS chairman to arrange for a dialogue between the government and the rebel forces.

On Liberia, Capt. Strasser said that the problem [word indistinct] was gradually engulfing the neighboring countries, and called for a quick resolution to the crisis. He appealed to the various factions to realize that there could be no winner in the civil war, and stressed the need for reconciliation among them.

In a goodwill message, the OAU chairman, President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia, also called on the warring factions not to exhaust the patience of ECOWAS and agree for a peaceful settlement of their differences.

A representative of the Liberian women and children who spoke at the meeting recounted their sufferings, and put up a five-point plan to bring peace to Liberia.

Meeting Extended to Second Day

AB1805095495 London BBC World Service in English 0615 GMT 18 May 95

[From the "Network Africa" program hosted by Rick Wells]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It looks as though the Liberian peace talks in Abuja have unexpectedly gone into a second day with no clear sign of an agreement. Delegates including a number of West African heads of state were expected to draft a joint resolution yesterday after meeting with representatives of Liberia's warring factions. Well, the man appointed as an eminent person for Liberia by the OAU, Zimbabwe's former president, Canaan Banana, is currently in Abuja. On the line, I asked him if anything had yet been resolved.

[Begin recording] [Banana] Nothing concrete so far has yet been achieved. The process of consultation continues between the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] Committee of Nine, of Council of Ministers, and heads of state and government on the one hand, and the various warring factions from Liberia on the other.

[Wells] Initially, this was billed as a one-day summit. Does this mean that it is now going to go on further than that?

[Banana] Yes, most likely this summit will continue beyond one day depending, of course, on the developments, and the outcome of the consultations that are in progress.

[Wells] But, do you get a feeling that there is going to be something positive at the end of it, that a statement will come out outlining what has been achieved?

[Banana] It is difficult at the moment to characterize the possible outcome of these meetings, but, of course, we always remain hopeful that some accommodation can be

realized to contribute to the advancement of the peace process in Liberia.

[Wells] So, what would you say are the key elements of the consultations that are still going on, as you say?

[Banana] You would appreciate that following the Cotonou Agreement, the Akosombo, and the Accra meetings, a great deal of common ground was achieved, but, however, there were areas of difference, particularly, with regard to the composition of the Council of State, and its leadership. These are the issues that are being addressed right now. Once the consultations have come to a close, of course, the summit will then issue a statement regarding the position that has been reached. [end recording]

ECOWAS Proposes Tamba Taylor as Leader

AB1805083895 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 0600 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The nine-nation ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] Mediation Committee on Liberia has suggested that Chief Tamba Taylor, who is a member of the Liberian Council of State, be made its chairman. This is contained in a report presented to the special heads of state summit on Liberia, which began in Abuja yesterday. The committee said, if accepted, Chief Taylor would replace Mr. David Kpomakpor, who is attending the summit as Liberia's interim leader, pending elections. It further asked the United States to assist ECOWAS in patrolling Liberia's land and sea borders in order to check the flow of arms into the country.

Addressing the opening session, the ECOWAS chairman, President Rawlings, criticized countries for allowing arms to pass through their countries for the warring factions in Liberia. He regretted that the continued flow of arms to the factions has led to the failure of all peace efforts. President Rawlings did not, however, name any country.

The Nigerian leader, General Sani Abacha, said his country will continue to support all ECOWAS actions taken on a collective basis to reinforce the Liberian crisis. A woman, who called herself a representative of women in Liberia, addressed the summit and pleaded for peace to be restored in her country.

Liberia's last peace accord was signed on 21 December in Accra last year, but has been blocked by squabbles over power-sharing among the country's faction leaders and politicians.

Delegates Accept Six-Man Council

AB1805103695 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English 0900 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] As Liberian warring factions meet in Abuja, reports reaching LBS [Liberian Broadcasting System] news say most of the delegates attending the conference have accepted a formula for a sixman council of state with a chairman and two vice chairpersons. In a telephone interview with a source close to the conference in Abuja, the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] delegates to the conference are however maintaining their position that Tom Woewiyu

should not be included on the council. This position, according to the source, is being rejected by West African leaders attending the conference, on grounds that no factional leader should determine should who sits on the council.

It is not being decided how the leadership of the council will be chosen but the reports suggest that the leadership may be decided through an electoral process. The reports also stated that Mrs. Theresa Lee Sherman delivered a special message on behalf of the Liberian women, something that was described as unprecedented. Meanwhile the meeting is said to be continuing.

Burundi

'Gang' Fires Three Rockets at Power Station

EA1705193395 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in French 1100 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] An armed gang attacked the Rwegura Power Station during the evening of 12 May. Innocent Nsabimana reports:

[Begin recording] [Nsabimana] [passage omitted] The attackers fired three rockets, two at the power station and another at the power distribution center. A generator was hit and some windows were broken.

What would have happened if the generator or power station had been seriously damaged? The Regideso Power and Water Company technical director, Mr. Sylvere Nzoyihera, answers us here:

[Nzoyihera] If the power station had been seriously damaged, there would have been disastrous consequences for Burundi and the subregion, particularly since the station is connected to the Rwandan and Zairian networks. The Rwegura Power Station produces about two thirds of the electricity used in Burundi. If the power station or one generator had been seriously damaged, industries in Bujumbura and elsewhere, as well as the supply to districts and homes, would have been affected. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Rwanda

Genocide Tribunal Facing Financial Problems

AB1705191295 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1215 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] We start this newscast with Rwanda: The international tribunal charged with trying the perpetrators of last year's genocide, which left more than 500,000 people dead, is facing huge financial problems, which have now paralyzed its functioning. The United Nations does not seem to be in much of a hurry to provide it with the necessary human and material resources, unlike the war crimes tribunal for former Yugoslavia. To date, the United Nations has not named the six judges to the tribunal out of the 12 children didates submitted to it, and the prosecutor's office has only five investigators. In the face of this impediment, Richard Goldstone, president of the international tribunal for Rwanda, will appeal in Kigali today for more resources for this institution. [passage omitted]

Zaire

Mobutu Criticizes Belgium-France-USA Troika

AB1705214495 Paris AFP in French 1344 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Kinshasa, 17 May (AFP) — Zairian President Mobutu Sesse Seko today bitterly criticized the Belgium-France-U.S. troika charged with monitoring the progress of the democratic process in his country, stating "that no country has the right to boss Zaire around."

Questioned by newsmen after a ceremony at which drugs were presented for the victims of the Kikwit epidemic — 400 km east of, Kinshasa — Marshal Mobutu stated that "no country has the right to boss Zaire around — without a UN or OAU mandate — I will take care of Zaire." Adding that "his opposition to such pretensions" of some countries, including those of the troika, is unchanged, Marshal Mobutu stated that his country is "independent and sovereign."

The Zairian president recently refused to receive the troika countries' ambassadors. Following this refusal, French President Mitterrand [as received] withdrew the invitation extended to the marshal to come and attend the ceremonies marking the 50th anniversary of the World War II's end in Paris.

Burundi's Prime Minister Arrives for Talks

EA1705210495 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in Kirundi 1700 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] As you heard earlier, Prime Minister Antoine Nduwayo has left for Zaire. He was accompanied by Defense Minister Lieutenant Colonel Firmin Sinzoyiheba, and the Cibitoke governor. Our colleague, Didas Ndikumana, who is covering the visit, has told us that the delegation has arrived in Kinshasa:

They were welcomed at the airport by the Zairean prime minister. Kengo wa Dondo, who had invited his Burundian counterpart. The visit falls within the framework of the search for security between out countries, especially in the area of our common border. According to the Zairian prime minister, his country is experiencing problems due to the lack of peace in Burundi and Rwanda.

Kengo wa Dondo acknowledged that Burundi and Rwanda were often attacked by people from his country, but he said that proof should be provided. [sentence as heard]

In a press interview in Kinshasa, the prime minister said that his country wanted to remove Burundian refugees from the border area and settle them 150 km inside Zaire, as stipulated by international laws. This desire was even presented to the UN Security Council.

He also said that Rwandan refugees in four camps in Zaire included former Rwandan soldiers, and that it is the soldiers who keep attacking Burundi. He said that the United Nations had found that moving the refugees would require a lot of money. Zaire for its part said that it could not provide shelter and afford the costs of moving the refugees from the border. Zaire, therefore, is asking the international community to support the work, so that the Rwandan and Burundian refugees are moved inside Zaire.

Concerning Burundians who keep addressing the press, he said that the Zairian Government could not accept acts which could jeopardize relations between our countries, adding that the people concerned had been asked not to do this again.

3,000 People Fleeing Virus in Kikwit Quarantined

AB1705191095 Paris AFP in English 1855 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kinshasa, May 17 (AFP) — Nearly 3,000 people fleeing the outbreak of deadly Ebola virus in Kikwit have been quarantined at M'Bangana, a town halfway between Kikwit and the capital Kinshasa, government sources said Wednesday [17 May].

The move followed a decision last week by the Zairean Government to isolate Kikwit and its environs to prevent the virus from spreading to the capital's four million population.

Military roadblocks have been set up to stop people moving between the two cities, 530 kilometres (375 miles) apart. M'Bangana is 130 kilometres (85 miles) from the Zairean capital.

"Nearly three thousand people coming from Kikwit and its environs have been quarantined for the past three days in M'Bangana where they have neither shelter nor food," Mayor Laurent Munkula said in reports here. "Their living conditions are catastrophic."

Two quarantined women had given birth in open air in M'Bangana, Munkula added in a plea for government aid for the displaced people.

Earlier Wednesday, UN officials predicted an imminent surge in the number of Ebola cases. Seventy-seven of the 101 cases reported so far have died.

A spokesman explained the expected surge in the outbreak by saying a number of people who are apparently incubating the virus had left Kikwit and gone to six outlying villages and probably infected people there.

The incubation period lasts up to three weeks. The outbreak began last month.

National Assembly Approves 'Truth Bill'

MB1705175995 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1740 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] National Assembly May 17 SAPA — The truth bill was approved by the National Assembly after a division in which the Freedom Front opposed it, following a debate of nearly five hours on Wednesday [18 May].

The legislation, which provides for a commission to probe past human rights abuses, still has to go before the senate before going to President Nelson Mandela to be signed into law.

Speaking in the debate, Mr Mandela said those who wanted the amnesty cutoff date extended to May 10 should co-operate in efforts to reduce violence. He had no doubt that once this happened, the national assembly would accept that extending the date beyond December 5 1993 would be in the interests of national reconciliation.

Anti-Crime Protest Involves Hundreds of Cars

MB1805113495 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1026 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg May 18 SAPA—Residents from Johannesburg's north-eastern suburbs, outraged by the high crime rate and particularly vehicle hijackings, staged a "moving demonstration" in about 650 cars to the Gauteng Legislature in the city centre on Thursday [18 May] morning.

Signed memorandums were handed to provincial Safety and Security MEC [member of the Executive Council] Jessie Duarte demanding increased visible policing, minimum mandatory sentences for criminals convicted of violent offences, legislation to restrict the right to bail of those charged with violent crimes and hijacking, urgent investigation into the source of the crimes, and a special task force to ensure safety and security in the community. Ms Duarte welcomed the protest as a positive step. Anti-crime operations "Hijack" and "Safety", which both began on May 10, would continue indefinitely, Ms Duarte said in a statement.

Protest organiser Citizens Against Crime member Gavin Opert told SAPA he wanted visible policing and not reports of lower statistics. The protest was further intended to urge Johannesburg residents to fight crime through community organisations. Alexandra Community Police Forum Chairman Martin Manzi agreed. He said the Alexandra police station had only one vehicle and crime in the township would spill over into neighbouring areas. Many of the protesters were eager to tell of hijackings in which they, family or friends were vic-

tims. Two-year-old Benzion Goldman, wearing a sign reading "I was hijacked", and his mother Rochel of Norwood were victims of an attempted hijacking in their driveway in December. His father, Rabbi Yossi Goldman, said effectively dealing with the crime wave was essential for reconciliation.

Citizens should force the government to react by not paying provisional taxes, National Party MPL [member of the Provincial Legislature] Oliver Powell said.

Mandela Holds Talks With UNITA Leader Savimbi Mandela: Government Should Include Savimbi

MB1705163795 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1600 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There will be no peace in Angola unless UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader Dr. Jonas Savimbi is included in the Angolan Government. This was the message from President Nelson Mandela in Cape Town today. Mr. Mandela was meeting Dr. Savimbi at the start of his visit to this country. Linda van Tilburg reports:

[Begin recording] [Van Tilburg] Several efforts have been made to engage Dr. Savimbi in talks with South Africa, but on two different occasions the UNITA leader failed to turn up for talks organized in other African countries. But following the 6 May peace accord with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Dr. Savimbi agreed to visit South Africa, and this morning he arrived in Cape Town. This afternoon he met President Nelson Mandela at Tuynhuys, where Mr. Mandela said that Dr. Savimbi should be part of the Angolan Government.

[Mandela] Any agreement which is not going to be reflected in the actual structure of government cannot bring about peace.

[Van Tilburg] Dr. Savimbi stressed that he was committed to the peace accord.

[Savimbi] We are committed fully to the efforts of establishing lasting peace in our country, stability.

[Van Tilburg] Earlier today the UNITA leader met an old friend, Dr. Constand Viljoen. Dr. Viljoen said possible agricultural assistance in Angola, similar to the projects undertaken in Mozambique, was discussed. [end recording]

Savimbi Interviewed on RSA Role

MB1805080695 London BBC World Service in English 0530 GMT 18 May 95

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] South Africa's President Mandela has given his public backing to UNITA [National

Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader Jonas Savimbi after the two men met for talks in Cape Town. Mr. Mandela said the rebel leader must have a place in any coalition government if there is to be peace in Angola. Dr. Savimbi said he would now go on to hold discussions with President Eduardo dos Santos to determine exactly what role he will play. On the line to his hotel room in Cape Town, our reporter Jackie Chambers asked Mr. Savimbi about South Africa's role in the Angolan peace process.

[Begin recording] [Savimbi] They will do it if they are asked to by the two parties, the government and UNITA, or if they asked by the United Nations, but I did not find here the intention of trying to influence or to interfere, but to help if they are asked to.

[Chambers] Now, was the subject of South African mercenaries brought up in your discussions with the president?

[Savimbi] We did not because I did not come here really to try to complain. Moreover, there were previous statements where the government of South Africa has distanced itself from the mercenaries in Angola, that is why we did not bring up that issue at all.

[Chambers] Later on today you will be holding talks with the deputy president, Mbeki, in South Africa. What will you be talking about?

[Savimbi] The South African Government is aware that problems in Angola may delay the progress in the whole area, so then, they are working with us to get the region stabilized. It is the interest of everybody now. We who have problems, as I have said today, we have to put to them what we want them to do or the international community has to ask the South African Government what they think that the government of South Africa is prepared to do. So, I do not really think that they ought to impose themselves. On the other hand, they are very much available if they are asked to play a role.

[Chambers] And this is the first time, I believe, you have been to South Africa for discussions with the president. What effect is the endorsement of you and your place in the new government going to have on negotiations?

[Savimbi] The major preoccupation is that the problem of Angola should be solved, and to solve it, people who have been fighting, they should be now given responsibility. If they do have responsibilities, then, I don't think they can go back to the bush again, because they have to share the blame or to share the successes. To be part of the government, the issue is not just to gain a portfolio, is to help to find a solution. [end recording]

Savimbi Holds Press Conference

MB1705181995 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1803 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town May 17 SAPA — UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader Dr Jonas Savimbi committed himself on Wednesday [17 May] to the implementation of an agreement to bring peace to war-torn Angola, and pledged full co-operation with United Nations peacekeeping troops in the former Portuguese colony. He was speaking at a press conference after briefing President Nelson Mandela and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki on efforts to implement an agreement reached with the Angolan Government during talks in Lusaka last year. Recent talks in Lusaka between Dr Savimbi and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos — widely hailed as breakthrough in attempts to end hostilities — were also discussed at Wednesday's meeting.

The UNITA leader, accompanied by three top officials, arrived in Cape Town on Wednesday morning for the long-awaited meeting with Mr Mandela.

"President dos Santos is the president of my country. I am an Angolan and a patriot. I want to participate, to share responsibilities to consolidate peace in our country," Dr Savimbi said.

The rebel leader who returned to the bush to continue Angola's 18-year civil war after losing presidential elections in 1993 emphasized that he was "not contesting" the presidency, and was "at the disposal of my country".

Asked what position he hoped to occupy in the Angolan Government, he said he would soon discuss the matter with President dos Santos. A proposal to hold new elections in Angola during 1996 would also be considered.

Earlier, Dr Savimbi said the terms of the Lusaka agreement had included provisions for UNITA to participate in the government. "We agreed with the letter and spirit of the Lusaka agreement and we want to be part of the structures of government."

He said his meeting in Lusaka with President dos Santos on May 6 had "had a tremendous impact" and had "broken the ice" between himself and the Angolan head of state.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, who joined the talks, said South Africa was "ready to do everything possible" to assist in the implementation of the Lusaka agreement and ensure the success of the United Nations Angolan Verification Mission (Unavern III).

He described the talks with Dr Savimbi and his delegation as "very inspiring and very moving". "The message that came across was that of a commitment to a permanent resolution of the conflict in Angola."

Mr Mbeki said South Africa had never refused to make available troops for the Unavem III mission.

South Africa had complied with requests from UN Secretary-General Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali for logistical support and assistance in clearing landmines.

The activities of the Pretoria-based company Executive Outcomes, which is contracted to train Angolan Army troops, was not discussed during Wednesday's talks. "South Africa's position is well known. We are against the involvement of South Africans or any foreign nationals in the conflict in Angola."

The talks will continue on Thursday morning, with attention focusing on the role which South Africa can play in bringing about an end to the Angolan conflict.

Dr Savimbi is scheduled to address a press conference at 11AM before return to Angola.

Savimbi To Free RSA Prisoners

MB1805113395 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1100 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader Dr. Jonas Savimbi has announced that South Africans being held prisoner by UNITA will be freed, and the bodies of those killed in fighting returned to South Africa.

Addressing a media conference, he said he would ask UNITA's chief of staff to establish the whereabouts of any prisoners or bodies of South Africans captured or killed in the Angolan conflict. Dr. Savimbi also disclosed that he had been contacted by relatives of missing Executive Outcomes personnel. He said he had given a commitment to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki during talks on Wednesday and Thursday morning, to hand over South African prisoners or bodies held by his movement.

Dr. Savimbi said he would like President Nelson Mandela to use his stature and influence to keep the Angolan peace process on track. Speaking after a second round of talks with South African leaders in Cape Town, Dr. Savimbi said both UNITA and the MPLA {Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola} would listen to President Mandela because he had shown he cared about Africa.

South Africa, he said, could also contribute to the peace process through the UN peacekeeping initiative in Angola. Dr. Savimbi said he had visited South Africa to learn how the government was tackling nation-building and reconciliation. He intended reporting back on his

visit to Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos as early as next week.

Savimbi Savs Time for 'Forgiveness'

MB1805115995 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1145 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town May 18 SAPA—UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader Dr Jonas Savimbi said on Thursday [18 May] he has recognised the results of the disputed 1992 Angolan elections and acknowledged President Jose Eduardo dos Santos as head of the state of the war-torn former Portuguese colony.

He was speaking at a press conference at the end of a two-day visit to South Africa, during which he held talks with President Nelson Mandela and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki. Emphasizing his commitment to peace and participation in a government of national unity, the rebel leader said attempts to apportion blame for the 30-year Angolan civil war were futile and the time had come for "forgiveness" "Forgiveness — that is the lesson that we are taking home from South Africa. From now on, we will mobilise all our energies to build tolerance and understanding to bring about a permanent peace in Angola."

Dr Savimbi, who was accompanied by three highranking UNITA officials, said the Lusaka Protocol signed between his movement and the Angolan Government in November last year laid the basis for "consolidating the ceasefire and promoting peace, tolerance and dialogue". Further talks between Dr Savimbi and President dos Santos in Lusaka on May 6 focused on UNITA's participation in a new government of national unity. "If there is a willingness to share responsibility, I am at the service of my country. My party is prepared to join in building national unity and consolidating the peace."

He would meet President dos Santos soon to discuss his role and that of UNITA in government. "Our minds are set on joining a government of national unity. It now depends on how fast the government moves to accommodate our ministers."

The Lusaka Protocol provides for fresh elections by February 1997, but Dr Savimbi said his party and the ruling Movimento Popular de Libertacao de Angola (MPLA) would continue to "gauge the mood" while implementing the protocol's terms. Asked what role South Africa could play, he said President Nelson Mandela's prestige as an African leader could help ensure that implementation of the Lusaka Protocol was not derailed.

South Africa had also indicated its willingness to provide any assistance requested by the United Nations for its Unavem [UN Angolan Verification Mission] III peacekeeping force in Angola. According to the Lusaka Protocol, Unavem III will be mandated to remain in Angola until new elections are held in February 1997.

Dr Savimbi described as "stupid" the fresh outbreak of hostilities after un-supervised presidential and parliamentary elections in September 1992, but added that UNITA had contested the elections results and the UN had admitted that it could not adequately organise and monitor the poll. UNITA, which first took to the bush in 1975 to fight Portuguese colonialism, took up arms again after the 1992 poll, which was won by President dos Santos and his MPLA party. "Now we have a different environment. Our country is exhausted after 30 years of war."

South African Press Review for 18 May MB1805104295

[FBIS Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Winnie Mandela Linked to Doctor's Death — Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 18 May in a page 16 editorial commends Police Commissioner George Fivaz for reopening the investigation into the death, more than six years ago, of Soweto-based doctor, Abu-baker Asvat. "The conviction of two young men of murdering him has not ended the matter, particularly as one of them alleged that he had been 'bought by Winnie Mandela'." THE STAR notes also that Asvat was "one of the last people to see 14-year-old Stompie Sepei — one of [Winnie] Mandela's kidnap victims — alive, having examined him medically shortly before he was killed."

SOWETAN

Government Housing Initiative — The implementation of the agreement between government and banks to make it possible for the latter to lend in the lower income categories represents "a major step forward in bringing in from the cold prospective homeowners in the lower income groups," notes a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 18 May. "It also indicates the Government's seriousness in tackling the problem." However, the paper cautions that despite the money the government is ploughing into this scheme, it will stand or fall "by the willingness of individual homeowners to pay something towards their own housing." This will require a "major shift in the mindset of virtually whole communities."

BUSINESS DAY

Trade 'Skirmish' Between Washington, Tokyo — South Africa would be "wise not to ignore the threat to the WTO [World Trade Organization] implicit in the present trade skirmish between Washington and Tokyo," says a page 14 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 18 May. The country's interests are best served by ensuring that multilateral trade agreements are strengthened and that "America's present pique over its motor industry trade deficit with Japan does not degenerate into a broader trade war and a reversion to bilateral trade arrangements." "We need to reinforce our multilateral trade rights with bilateral agreements such as that being constructed with the EU and that give our exporters favourable access to markets."

Angola

Industry Minister Views Need for Growth

MB1605144995 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 16 May 95

[Report by economics reporter To Braganca]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Industry Minister Isalino Manuel Mendes today gave a long interview to Radio Angola's economics news desk in which he disclosed that \$250 million is needed so the country's industrial infrastructure can be repaired. Because of scarce resources, the industrial sector may get only \$43 million to permit the continued operation of those companies that are still active. From Industry Minister Mendes' point of view, the \$43 million represents the very minimum amount needed:

[Begin Mendes recording] As we have pointed out before, approximately \$43 million is needed to keep those companies running at basic levels, but allowing production levels to rise from 15 to 20 percent to about 30 to 40 percent. [end recording]

In general terms, the industrial sector's production levels have dropped considerably over the last few years, but Minister Mendes promised the situation would be turned around. [passage omitted]

Swaziland

Country Denies Being UNITA Weapons Transit

MB1805084795 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 18 May 95 p 2

[Report by Sibusiso Mngadi]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The government has categorically denied that Swaziland is one of the major transit points for the infiltration of arms of war to the Angolan opposition group, UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola].

In a letter to the Angolan Government, the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Arthur Khoza said the allegations against the country were unfounded and damaging to the relationship existing between the two countries.

"I have learnt with shock and dismay from an article which appeared in one of our daily newspapers "The Times of Swaziland" dated April 18, 1995 that Swaziland is being accused by obscure sources of being one of the major transit points for the infiltration of arms of war to the Angolan opposition group, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA)," the Minister said in the letter.

"On behalf of His Majesty's Government, the People of the Kingdom of Swaziland as well as myself, I wish to categorically dissociate Swaziland from such iniquitous and unfounded allegations and accusations which are quite damaging to the already existing good relations between our two countries.

"Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance that Swaziland's policy is one of non-interference and a peace-loving nation and we do not simultaneously indulge in covert or overt operations calculated to destabilise other independent and sovereign States."

The allegations of the infiltration were unveiled by a Pudemo [People's United Democratic Movement] member who is student in a University in London, England. Mr Kuseni Dlamini wrote to a number of international organisations, including Pudemo alleging that in a scholarly conference on Angola held in London, Swaziland was implicated in the UNITA arms link.

He said a respected researcher told the meeting that arms are transported through Matsapha airport and go via Zaire before they get to UNITA. Mr Dlamini said Swaziland was criticised by the meeting for engaging in such a practice, especially since she has a clean international record.

Zimbabwe

Mozambique Trade Sought To Curb RSA 'Monopoly'

MB1605121295 Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 11 May 95 p 2

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Government must come up with a well-defined trade policy with Mozambique to counter South Africa's growing monopoly of the market in that country, an industry executive has said.

In an interview, regional president of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI) Manicaland Chamber Sam Grottis said unless a clear cut trace policy outside what he called the "generality of the PTA [Preferential Trade Area]" was put in place, trade with Mozambique would remain low-key and slipshod.

"The non-existence of a well-defined policy between our country and Mozambique will give South Africa's manufacturing industry and exporters an opportunity to continue scooping the whole market from right under our feet," he said.

The industrial and economic growth of Mutare though slow, was evident and would gather momentum as peace in Mozambique becomes more established he said. Grottis cited PG Zimboard's fibreboard manufacturing and door manufacturing plants, the Nyanga Timbers project, the Forestry Commission's Chinhokwe Sawmill and another timber processing project by Border Timbers in Chimanimani as examples of the growth.

President Mugabe Leaves for U.S. 'Working Visit'

MB1705073195 Harare Zimbabwe National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 0500 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Robert Mugabe left for the United States last night on a weeklong working visit during which he's expected to hold talks with his American counterpart, Bill Clinton, World Bank and International Monetary Fund officials. President Mugabe and Mr. Clinton are expected to discuss issues of democracy, market reforms, and international peacekeeping.

The president will also hold talks with American Secretary of State Warren Christopher; Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Brown; Secretary for Treasury, Mr. Rubin; and Secretary for the Interior, Mr. Babbitt; and members of the American Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Comrade Mugabe, who is making the visit at the invitation of President Clinton, will also travel to North Carolina for a meeting with Governor James Hunt before

returning horne. He's accompanied by Foreign Minister Stan Mudenge, Industry and Commerce Minister Herbert Murerwa.

PLO Ambassador Criticizes U.S. Veto Decision

MB1805124995 Harare Zimbabwe National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1130 GMT 18 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Palestinian ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr. (Ali Halime), has criticized the United States for blocking an important UN Security Council resolution on the confiscation of Palestinian land in East Jerusalem.

In a statement released in Harare today, Mr. (Halime) said the U.S. decision to veto the resolution shows Washington's continued support of Israeli policy aimed at confiscating Arab land. He said the American decision is hostile toward the Palestinian people's cause and is against the basic principles of peace in the Middle East.

The United States yesterday vetoed a Security Council resolution calling on Israel to stop grabbing Arab land in East Jerusalem.

Liberia

Council Orders Probe Into Destabilization Rumors

AB1705135095 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English 0900 GMT 17 May 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The acting chairman of the Council of State, Councilor Philip Banks, has instructed the acting minister of justice, (Conmany Suku Sackoh) to conduct an immediate investigation into rumors that some elements in the safe haven of Monrovia have organized a plan to destabilize the government. Acting Chairman Banks in a meeting yesterday told the acting minister of justice that the preservation of peace and security for the more than 1 million residents of Monrovia is nonnegotiable.

According to a [word indistinct] release issued yesterday, acting Chairman Banks also instructed the Liberian National Police to be on 24-hour maximum alert to decisively respond with anything available to it in dealing with any security threat in Monrovia.

The acting State Council chairman said the authorities of ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] have already [been] notified about these reports, and the impending security checks associated with them. The acting justice minister, and the director of police have been directed to arrest anyone suspected of being a party to the destabilization plan regardless of their status in government or society.

NPFL's Taylor on Current Fighting, Abuja Summit

AB1705180095 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 17 May 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] They are trying yet again to put pressure on the Liberian warlords to stop the fighting. Nine West African heads of state are in the Nigerian capital, Abuja, to try and get the agreement signed in Accra last year to be implemented. The talks opened this morning, and it seems the West African leaders are on a short fuse. From Abuja, Janet Anderson reports.

[Begin Anderson recording] The attitude of the heads of state attending the summit reflect the growing sense of impatience in all the West African governments involved in peacekeeping in Liberia. The cost of intervention has been high, and there is still no tangible solution to the five-year-long civil war. Liberia has around 60,000 armed fighters, and all sides are conscious that the only way to achieve lasting peace is for the factions to disarm and for effective monitoring to be put in place.

Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings called for more international support, and blamed West African countries which allow the smuggling of arms into Liberia from their own territories, despite the United Nations arms embargo. He said he wasn't surprised by Tanzania's decision to withdraw its troops from Liberia, or Uganda's threat to do so, considering the lack of progress. (?Similar sense) of frustration was echoed by Sierra Leonean Head of State Valentine Strasser, who asked how the West African countries intended to control the Liberian factions if they would not agree. He said no Liberian faction leader could be allowed to take a winner-takesall attitude.

What is still not clear is whether a new deal can be struck at Abuja to the satisfaction of all the military factions. One of main faction leaders, Charles Taylor, is not attending, and his agreement remains crucial. [end recording]

Well, the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] of Charles Taylor, who has failed to turn up in Abuja, has been locked in fierce fighting with ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] forces for the past couple of weeks, and there have been reports of horrific atrocities in the center of the country, where the NPFL has been in conflict with the LPC [Liberia Peace Council]; and once again, the NPFL has been accused of getting money and material backing from Ivory Coast. On the line, Josephine Hazely asked Charles Taylor why he hadn't gone to Abuja.

[Begin recording] [Taylor] The situation here is that there is a major problem regarding my personal security on the ground and in Abuja and Nigeria as a whole. So, we have decided to send a top-level delegation and the NPFL chartered a jet plane and we have 27 members of our full delegation in Abuja, headed by the vice president. [sentence as heard] I have a staff here on a 24-hour shift and any and all decisions coming out of there, we can act quickly. [sentence as heard] I think we are demonstrating, once more, that we are prepared to do business, and that is why we are there. So, my presence is not important as to the process, and we want to state clearly here that we support the initiatives at Abuja. We are there in good faith. I will do nothing to derail the process. Our people want peace, and so we are there for business and not for confusion, and so I didn't have to be there personally, but I am in full contact with my delegation.

[Hazely] But you will have to sanction that decision, and wouldn't it have been better if you were there in person, so that whatever decision or problem that crop up, you can solve it there and then?

[Taylor] Well, the NPFL is not a little club: We are a government. I sent a satellite telephone system in there. I am in contact with them. They have full authority.

We want this thing over with so, let us just keep our fingers crossed. We think that something can come out of Abuja, and we are looking forward to it. After all, the Nigerians are responsible for this delay, because Ghana still has the best agreement that we have come up with, and I think that the Akosombo Accord should have moved forward.

[Hazely] So, you are going to insist that the Akosombo Accord is implemented, are you?

[Taylor] I am not expecting for the heads of state of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] to go and negotiate an agreement for Liberia. I do not think that this is what they intend to do, because they have always said that it is up to Liberians to come up with their own agreement. So, the heads of state, I will expect, will be there to support whatever agreement we come up with, and we already have an agreement that came out of Akosombo and the Accra clarification. So, I did not know that they would go there to negotiate an agreement for the Liberians. I do not think that that's the reason for this meeting. [end recording]

Taylor Denies Aid Received From Cote d'Ivoire

AB1705182695 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 17 May 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Well, the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] of Charles Taylor, who has failed to turn up in Abuja, has been locked in fierce fighting with ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] forces for the past couple of weeks, and there have been reports of horrific atrocities in the center of the country, where the NPFL has been in conflict with the LPC [Liberia Peace Council]; and once again, the NPFL has been accused of getting money

and material backing from Ivory Coast. On the line, Josephine Hazely asked Charles Taylor why he hadn't gone to Abuja. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Hazely] One of the things I believe that will be discussed in Abuja is the allegation or the [words indistinct] that the Ivorians are helping you in terms of allowing arms to be ferried across the border into the area you control; and also you, yourself, going in and out just like that.

[Taylor] I categorically deny this. This is not the case. La Cote d'Ivoire has kept her hands clean, and in fact our officials travel in Cote d'Ivoire only by permission. Before I travel to any international conference, I have to first seek the okay and the information is given to the Ivorian Government. But you've done interviews with Alhaji Koromah out of Conakry. At least, you haven't done any interviews of Charles Taylor out of Abidjan.

[Hazely] If the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] heads of state meeting agrees to police the border, will you accept that? Will you honor that? Will you respect that?

[Taylor] Well, I will expect that ECOWAS will agree to police the Sierra Leonean border, police the Guinean border, and police the Ivorian border. But I do not think that any sound person would accept a situation where Alhaji Koromah and Strasser can import arms into this country and support groups here, and then someone continues to complain about Cote d'Ivoire. Cote d'Ivoire is not helping, and it is unfair for anyone to think that it would be reasonable to go and police the Ivorian border without policing the Guinean and Sierra Leonean borders. I would accept a plan where all borders are policed, and I think the Ivorians and everyone else should accept that. [end recording]

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